

California's newest WMD response team validates at Camp Roberts

By Staff Sgt. Tom Murotake

CERFP (pronounced "surf-pea") North, a team of approximately 120 National Guard soldiers specially trained in response to a "weapons of mass destruction" incident, has completed their training and certification here at Camp Roberts.

"The team did amazingly well," said Col. John Bernatz, director, taking into consideration that some of the training conducted was during torrential thunderstorms that struck the area, adding unexpected complications to the exercise.

An acronym within an acronym, the "C" of CERFP represents "CBRNE," which stands for "Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or High-Yield Explosive," while the "ERFP" stands for "Enhanced Response Force Package."

The second in what will eventually become six units statewide, the soldiers of a CERFP are mostly "traditional" Guard citizen-soldiers who have regular civilian employment and usually serve one weekend a month and two weeks a year. They are intended to mobilize within six hours and follow behind

National Guard Civil Support Teams and Quick Reaction Forces, setting-up to decontaminate and provide treatment for the victims of a "weapon of mass destruction" or similar large-scale terrorist attack. To qualify for certification, the team must decontaminate and treat 60 victims an hour. Federal funding only provided for one CERFP unit, according to Bernatz.

However, the Adjutant General of California, Maj.

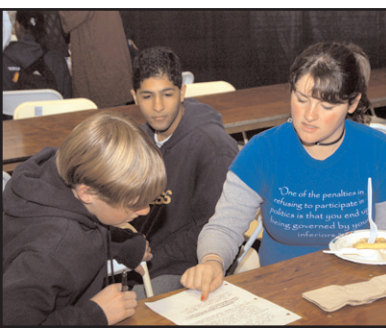
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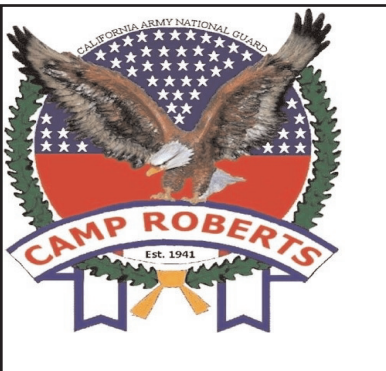
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ A SALUTE TO ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ CAMP ROBERTS ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ SUPPORTING THE WAR ON TERROR ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

NOVEMBER 10, 2004

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NEW TRAINING FACILITIES MEET NATO STANDARDS **see photos on page 5**



CAMP ROBERTS UNDER GOING EXTENSIVE RENOVATION, **see page 7**



ROAD BUILDERS: NEW QUARRY AND PAVING OPERATIONS, **see page 8**

Training for the Ultimate Test



Pictured above are two of the first California National Guard soldiers to train at the new TSIRT Complex.

Camp Roberts dedicates new Theater Specific Individual Readiness Training Complex

By Lisa Norris

Camp Roberts Public Affairs Office

On October 9, 2004 Camp Roberts added a new NATO-standard training complex to its facilities with the dedication of "Soldier Field," a Theater Specific Individual Readiness Training (TSIRT) Complex.

The TSIRT complex, a fifteen acre site consisting of former World War II-era "messhalls" that were renovated into modern classrooms and "training lanes" allows the practical application of classroom instruction under simulated combat conditions for soldiers mobilized in support of Global War on Terrorism

missions, United Nations peace-keeping missions, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Soldier Field training complex, along with the Soldier Readiness Processing Center and Central Issue Facility establish Camp Roberts as a premiere training site for units preparing for deployment.

Making this complex unique among Camp Roberts' facilities is summed-up in the facility's motto: "Built By Soldiers For Soldiers." Nearly all the construction and renovation has been performed by California Army National Guard

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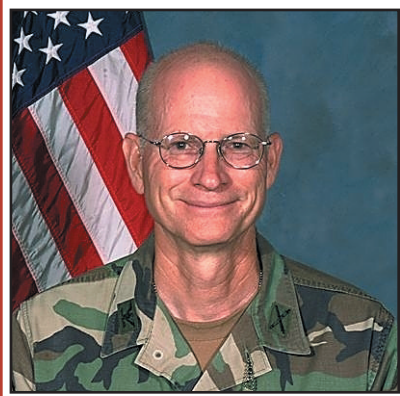


3rd Brigade, 40th Infantry Division, cases its colors in a final ceremony before joining the United Nations Kosovo peace-keeping mission.

CNG Soldiers prepare to leave for Operation Enduring Freedom

MORE than 500 California Army National Guard soldiers from all over the state were honored during a farewell ceremony at Camp Roberts on October 21, 2004. After successfully completing Theater Specific Individual Readiness Training and Soldier Readiness Processing at Camp Roberts, these soldiers, known as Task Force Falcon, will spend a few months at Fort Lewis, Washington, preparing to support Operation Enduring Freedom in the Balkans. These soldiers will assist in the on-going United Nations peace-keeping and humanitarian efforts in the region and could be in country for up to 18 months.

FROM THE COMMANDER



Welcome to Camp Roberts

By Colonel John F. Smith

It is with great pleasure and pride that I welcome the reader to Camp Roberts. The past year has been an eventful one. We completed several important construction projects and significantly improved our training facilities with the upgrade of several weapon ranges and the addition of new training simulations. In cooperation with the local community, we hosted community activities such as hunting and fishing programs and the YMCA Youth & Government Program. Camp Roberts also took part in several State emergency operations and exercises. The aftermath of the terrorist attack on 11 September 2001 and the Nation's Greater War on Terrorism continues to guide our activities. Camp Roberts conducted training and other mobilization activities in support of thousands of California

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FROM PASO MAYOR FRANK MECHAM



Paso proud to support our troops

Our community salutes our neighbor to our North. Over the many years, Camp "Bob", as its affectionately known, has been a vital part of the City of Paso Robles. That influence became even better understood last year, when at the Economic Forecast for Paso Robles, the economic influence to our area was clearly expressed. It isn't only the military presence, nor is it simply the on-going activity we see and hear. Camp Roberts provides jobs for the National Guard Staff and civilian personnel as well. Local contractors, suppliers, architects and engineers have all benefited by the increased activity. In addition, the military presence plays a large part in the economic interests of our restaurants,

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